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Now you see them

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Editorial: Georgia budget cuts threaten education

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Established in 1935

THE INKWELL

Week of March 4, 2010

theinkwellonline.com

Volume 79, Issue 8

SGA candidates campaign to win votes from students



Photo courtesy of Zerik Samples
Junior Zerik Samples is the only candidate running for SGA president.

Reporting by Brad Curran and Aaron Feizet
Staff Reporters

"As a candidate for this position I know that it is time for me to take my rightful place as a servant, and lead this student body. I am a true believer in the statement that in order to lead you must serve. In the past, I have served the student body for over 2 years; serving in the capacity as President Pro-temp and currently as Treasurer. I

know that with the foundation of my knowledge of the Student Government Association and my dedication to serve, I am ready to lead the student body at Armstrong Atlantic State University in the capacity of the Student Government Association President. With ample experience, ample ideas, and ample leadership ability I, Zerik Samples, will get the job done!"

SGA elections

The SGA elections begin March 9.

Students can start voting at 9 a.m.

Voting ends at 9 a.m. on March 11.

Students can vote using their Pirate Cove accounts.

Find full coverage of the SGA elections on page 2

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Crime Blotter Student robbed at gunpoint

By Stuart Grosse
Staff Reporter

Lt. John Bennett of the University Police Department (UPD) was dispatched to 1005 University Crossings in response to a phone call from a woman claiming that her grandson had been robbed at gunpoint on Feb. 20 at 10:41 p.m.

Police were delayed in responding as they had only the victim's name and had to find the exact apartment he was living in before they could be dispatched, and it was unclear from the grandmother's call whether the robbery had taken place on campus.

Upon arriving at the dorm, Bennett knocked on the door and announced himself as a police officer. According to the police report, the victim was slow to react, and his speech was slurred. Bennett also noticed his pupils were pinpoints and he had foam at the sides of his mouth.

The victims reported to officers that he and his girlfriend fell asleep around 9:30 p.m.

The victim said he was half asleep at approximately 10 p.m. when a white male in his early 20s entered through the unlocked door. He was dressed in a black hoodie and a bandana covered his face.

The man ripped the covers off the victim and his girlfriend and pointed a silver revolver at them before taking the victim's wallet and cell phone, as well as a guitar. The victim believed the man was on foot, since he did not hear a vehicle when the man left. Police are investigating.

On Feb. 17, at 12:50 p.m., a student came to UPD HQ to file a report regarding \$20 that was taken from her bedroom while she was in class.

The victim stated that she was running late to class and did not lock her bedroom door when she left.

When she returned from class, she noticed the Valentine's Day card and money her mother had given her was missing.

She searched her room but could not find the missing card or money. The vic-

Search yields no sign of Bryce Tarter

By Joseph Prouse
Staff Reporter

Bryce Daniel Tarter was born Oct. 28, 1990, in Savannah, Ga., to Blake and Michaela Tarter.

He was reported missing almost five weeks ago.

Mrs. Tarter said a lot of people have asked her and Blake if they think Bryce ran away, but both parents said he did not.

"There's no way that Bryce could have left everyone that he knows," Mrs. Tarter said.

Tarter moved around the U.S. a lot as a child since his father was in the U.S. Navy.

He graduated high school in Maine in 2008. His father said that he went to three different high schools in four years.

Tarter's parents describe him as a charming young man who was very close to his family and loved sports.

His father said that he played baseball throughout his life and played football in high school; he has even

had articles written about him.

His parents said he was not a troublemaker. They said he never got into fights and wasn't quarrelsome.

"He's kind of a chameleon," Mrs. Tarter said.

Both parents also said that when he was in high school he was friendly and able to get along with anybody.

Mr. Tarter said his son was in his freshman year at AASU and was interested in engineering.

"Going to college has been his dream since he was 10 years old," his mother said.

"He knew he wanted to go to Armstrong," Mr. Tarter said.

His parents explained that even if he wanted to leave, he didn't have the resources to leave, and he had nowhere to go except for where he would have been found.

The search

On Feb. 20, 2010, the Community United Effort



Photo courtesy of Michaela Tarter

AASU student Bryce Tarter was reported missing on Jan. 30 after visiting friends on campus.

(CUE), a national non-profit organization that helps search for missing persons, searched for Tarter along the roads and in the woods by the routes that he could have taken when he went missing Jan. 31.

The search party consisted of about 100 volunteers from the area. There was a search dog, several horse-

mounted volunteers and a small group of ATVs. Monica Caison, the founder of CUE, said that no signs of Bryce were found.

AASU student Bryce Tarter has been missing since Jan. 30. If anyone has information, please call (910) 232-1687 or visit www.BringBryceHome.com.

CUB wins best programming board for 2009

By Amanda Dickey
Staff Reporter

AASU's very own Campus Union Board (CUB) won the Boyd Jones Programming Board of the Year for 2009 on Feb. 20, designated by the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities (APCA).

The APCA is a national campus activities organization dedicated to serving the needs of Campus Programming Departments, Student Government Associations (SGA), leadership development programs and other campus organizations throughout the nation.

This organization currently has over 250 school members nationwide, and in 2009, 170 schools and over 900 students and advisers participated in conferences and workshops which provide programming services.

AASU's CUB competed with 169 other schools and won the award, making many students, faculty and staff extremely proud of the success.

"Essentially, the vendors, artists and agents that we work with on an annual basis nominate and vote on who they think deserves the best programming board," said Sally Watkins, associate director for Student Activities and Judicial Affairs. "They had a lot of schools attend the conference, meaning there are a large number of schools to be considered for the award."

"The APCA, who gave the award, was founded in 1994, and this group is where the students on the programming board go to identify the talent to bring in for the semester. AASU has participated in the conference for six

years. This demonstrates how over the years CUB has been able to establish some strong, successful relationships with artists and entertainers. Now, students have great connections if they want to become an entertainer or event planner."

SGA president Tamer Amer announced the news about the award at the SGA meeting on Feb. 22.

"One area that we were judged positively in is that we are very diverse," said CUB Treasurer Zerik Samples. "We create a very strong relationship with the agents and performers. We make sure they have good quality transportation to the venues, we cater to them, and make them feel at home. We try to make them feel like family. We have had very long lasting relationships with these agents and performers. Another thing the judges liked was the diversity in our events. We've brought in lots of different artists; we do all that by buying and bidding through APCA. Another thing they judged us on is the amount of student participation. We bring in a lot of students to these events. We have a lot of participation from the crowd. We are nothing without our students," Samples said.

Samples said CUB worked hard this year in bringing diverse acts to the school and that they could not have done it without Watkins.

"CUB always has such a wide variety of events they bring to Armstrong, and there's always a huge turnout," said AASU Junior Tiffany Gnnan.

"I'm not surprised that they won such a prestigious award," Gnnan said.



Photo by Amanda Dickey

Campus Briefs

United States Navy Concert Band to perform

The AASU department of Art, Music & Theatre welcomes The United States Navy Concert Band on March 6.

Admission is free with an AASU I.D.

The concert will be held in the Fine Arts Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

For more information call 344-2801 from noon-3 p.m., weekdays.

Savannah Morning News and the U.S. Navy League are co-sponsors for this concert.

AASU grad wins acceptance to politics program

AASU graduate Somi Benson-Jaja has been accepted to participate in the Semester in Washington (SIW) at the George Washington University in D.C.

SIW is in collaboration with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF); which brings together undergraduate and graduate students from around the country and the world for a semester of coursework, networking, meetings and events with national leaders and organizations.

Benson-Jaja has accepted an internship with the CBCF and will also participate in SIW's practicum, in which he will work as part of a team of students to develop a campaign plan for a 2010 Senate campaign.

SIW offers undergraduates and graduate students earned credit toward their degree at George Washington University.

For more information, call (202) 994-8908 or visit www.siwpolitics.gwu.edu

NEWS

March 6: Sigma Tau Delta "Strut Your Mutt" in the Science Center parking lot from noon-4 p.m.
March 8: SGA Meeting in Solms Hall 110 from noon-1 p.m.
 Media Center Advisory Meeting in Solms Hall 209 from 4 p.m.-8 p.m.
March 9: Math Problem Solving Seminar in University Hall 156 at 11:45 a.m.
March 10: Relay for Life Fundraiser Hotdog Cookout in Shearouse Plaza from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 HOLA Lunch & Learn in Solms Hall 108 from noon-1 p.m.

2010 SGA Elections

Vice-presidential candidates

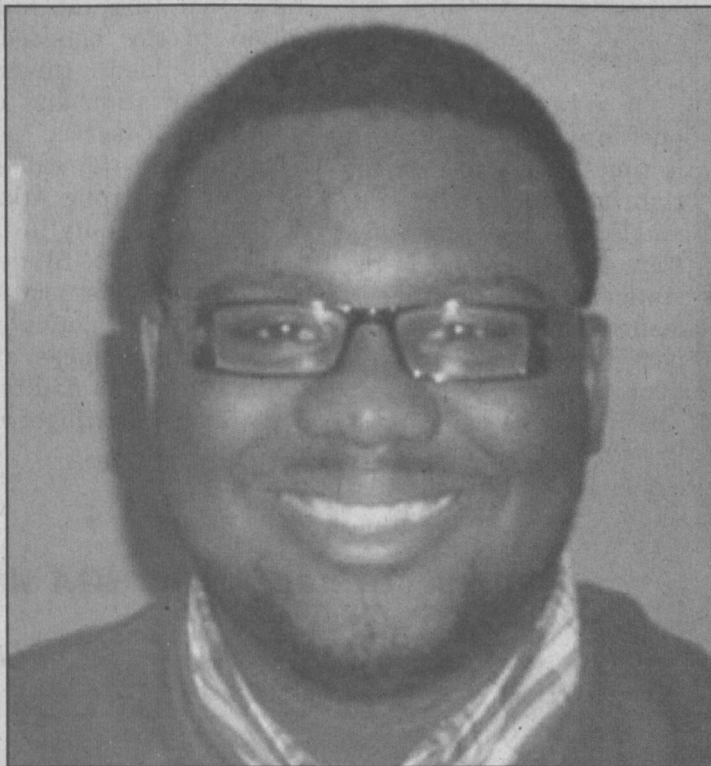
Reporting by Brad Curran
 and Aaron Feizet
 Staff Reporters

Photos were
 provided by
 each candidate's
 respective
 campaigns.



Ellen Evans

"My goal is to do my job with excellence and to always incorporate the students' opinions and requests in my decisions. I am running because I want to make sure that the student body is and always will be SGA's number one priority, to bring more school spirit to the university, to make sure that there is an equal opportunity for all students (commuting students and on-campus residents), and to let every student know that I will work hard. I will make time, and I will be dedicating 100 percent of me to this position."



Ty Slater

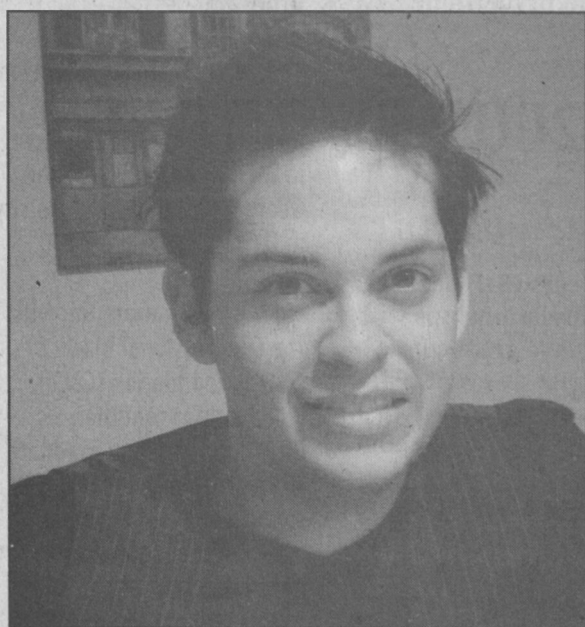
"SGA's purpose I believe [...] should be a government for students by students. As an elected student leader we must all remember to serve the interest of the student body at large. I believe firmly that AASU can and will be the best but it begins with us uniting this campus, each student, and each organization, and by reaching out to our surrounding community. I am the only candidate and registered student at AASU that has served in every capacity of our Student Government, and I have built strong relationships with faculty and students here at AASU in my many efforts to better our university. That is why students should vote for me, if for not anything else [...] my commitment, service, and dedication to them and our university for the past three years has been unwavering."

Attempts were made to contact those individuals not pictured. Not pictured are vice-presidential candidate Rae Moe and secretary candidates Kimberly Brown and Courtland Hendricks.

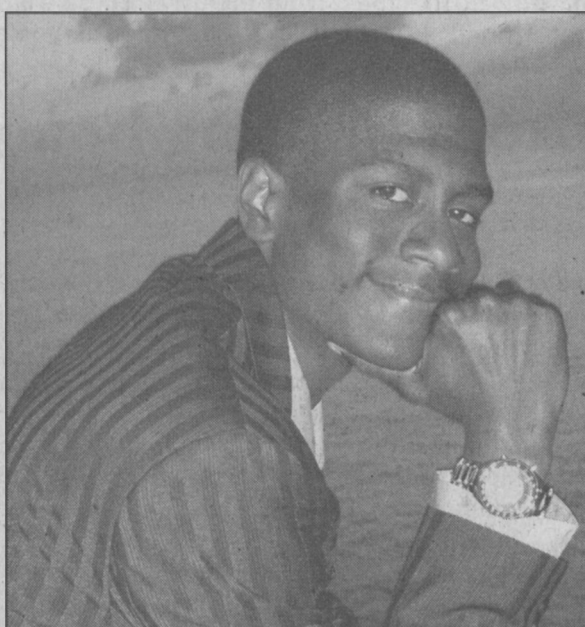
Senatorial candidates:

Kristyna Booth	Tanesha Sloan
Chelsea Jackson	Songoli Okolo
Ouwayomi Adeyemo	Cheryl Dixon
Eric Koonce	April Powell
Giulianna Calvo	Kyana Morton
Alexis Burkes	Gabriel Aquino
Whitney Maxwell	Whitney Kimbrough
Chatonna Powell	

Treasurer candidates



Bryan Tobar



Desmond Wells



DeShaundra Fuller

Secretary candidates



Eleora Marcel

"My goal is to increase school spirit, continue the great communication within the Executive Board and Senate, accurately take minutes and send the information out in a timely manner as well as keep a close relationship with the student body by communicating with the Recognized Student Organizations so they are updated with the Student Government as well as the Campus Union Board. I promise to fulfill all the duties as SGA Secretary with dedication and professionalism in a timely and orderly fashion."

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be less than 350 words, and they must be signed. E-mail your submission to inkwell@armstrong.edu.
Opinions expressed in op/ed columns or in editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.
The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar and spelling.

Gov. Perdue: Georgia don't need no ejumacashun

Proposed FY 2011 budget slashes chances for state to head anywhere but down

The Inkwell Editorial Board

Georgia universities and colleges gave Gov. Sonny Perdue an inch, and he took a mile.

The ability of the University System of Georgia (USG) to tighten its belt amid massive cuts has only served to embolden Perdue, whose proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year plants a \$300 million shortfall on the backs of educators and students.

The USG Board of Regents (BoR) scrambled to release a plan to distribute these cuts across the 35 institutions, but Chancellor Errol B. Davis Jr.'s "Summary of Reductions" clearly shows that there is not much distribution to be had — just decimation.

According to the summary, which was for discussion only and is not definite, AASU could shoulder nearly \$5.3 million of the burden.

Cutting degree programs, firing qualified personnel and eliminating continuing

education for the community are the decisions the BoR is forced to make, and students know more fees and increased tuition follow close behind.

While stealing this money from education may create funds for some short-term jobs, as any smoker knows, instant gratification is not only expensive, but also fatal.

Let alone the jobs that will be lost with these budget cuts (AASU alone will lose 12 percent of its full-time workforce and 57 other positions will be closed), now Perdue expects Georgians to pay more for a lesser quality education that takes longer to complete.

What a deal.

Many will go somewhere else, especially for graduate degrees, when they begin comparing prices with the quality of schools one can find outside of the state.

College will be an impossible dream for many residents who would like to get ahead.

But it is not all about

those people who are too poor to afford college. The long-term effects for the entire state will be disastrous.

When out-of-state students hear how education is valued in Georgia, they will head toward university systems in which knowledge and critical thinking are more important than cigarette taxes.

More importantly, when an uneducated workforce greets visiting CEOs, corporations will take their businesses elsewhere.

The dwindling salaries will mean less of a tax base in the future, which translates into more budget deficits in the future.

At least this time that money troubles have come around, students, faculty, staff and the BoR are united against the same threat. Students have scheduled protests, faculty is writing letters, and everyone is signing the petition.

Perhaps Perdue has pushed the USG too far this time. Our representatives may be able to shoot



Photo by Kristen Powell

SGA Sen. Justin Taylor and other AASU students gathered on White Bluff Road across from Savannah Tech during President Obama's visit on March 2. They hoped to draw attention to Georgia state education cuts, which will decimate AASU if passed.

this one down, if they know enough of their constituents were upset enough to send an e-mail or hold a sign.

If so, it may be possible to keep Georgia competitive for jobs and education, and maybe a great place

to raise a family or simply settle down and live.

And if not, the USG and its students cannot afford to repeat the mistakes they made with Perdue. Now that Perdue has taken enough rope, it is too late — it is his last year in of-

rice. Get informed. Get involved. Stand up for not only your education, but your community's future.

Know something The Inkwell should cover? E-mail news.inkwell@gmail.com and let us know.

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By Luke Farmer
Web Editor

Why it matters Russian roulette (with six bullets)

Luke Farmer's views are his own and do not necessarily represent those of The Inkwell Editorial Board.

There's an old joke about the Georgia state legislature: if the whole thing picked up and moved to Florida, it'd raise the collective IQs of both states. It'd probably also save the state from cutting the throats of the next two generations of residents.

The legislature is currently considering a \$300 million cut to the University System of Georgia (USG). A cut of this magnitude would all but spell doom for the long-term survival of AASU and would destroy any chance Georgia has of training or recruiting citizens for the global economy or attracting any business with more specialized needs than Ditch Diggers, Inc.

For AASU, this cut represents a total of \$5.285 million, right around 10 percent of the institutional budget. According to an impact assessment by the USG, that cut means a near or even complete elimination of the Liberty Center and the Brunswick Center, throwing out 454 students and 16 faculty and staff.

It also means eliminating five academic programs and departments, which means "1191 students will not have the major of choice; larger class sizes; lower quality of advising; fewer course sections will be offered; increased time to completion of degrees."

It means "57 faculty and staff positions will be eliminated; loss of faculty expertise and

experience; inability to recruit talented faculty in the future; additional burden to faculty and staff in departments."

It means "Negative impact to the university for loss of talented, experienced faculty and staff; inability to recruit students to majors; loss of momentum to improve retention, progression, graduation; negative impact on reputation for quality instruction."

It means that 12 percent of full-time employees will be out of work. And in the USG's own words, it will be a "devastating loss of the ability to serve the university constituency and to fulfill the university mission. Long term damage the reputation of the university, the quality of instruction, and the ability to attract students, faculty, and staff."

This isn't a \$75 fee or a cut to the travel budget. This is for all the marbles; we're playing for keeps now. This budget cut will happen to every university and will damage all of them severely, many irreparably.

Should we let the state legislature fulfill a short-term budget

gap—admittedly a large one—by robbing the money from future generations of Georgians and from ourselves, we will face a daunting challenge economically for the future of this state. We won't get new jobs; no new business will move here or be able to open here because the workforce just won't have the education to support them.

Contact your congressmen, your senators, your state representatives, senators and the governor. The Inkwell web site will have links to find out who they are so you can call or write.

Higher education in Georgia will once again become the province of the rich and well-connected, and the manufacturing jobs that let people be middle class, raise a family and send their kids to college won't be here to correct the problem.

The promise of America is not fame, subsistence or subservience; our America is built on the idea that you can make your own way in the world because this nation provides you with the opportunity and the resources that make it possible. America gives you the chance to succeed and for your children to succeed if only you put in your effort.

theinkwellonline.com

SPORTS

March 5: Softball vs. Wingate 1 p.m.
Tennis vs. Lynn 2 p.m.
Softball vs. Wingate 3 p.m.
March 6: Softball at SCAD noon at SCAD Smash Hit Tournament
Softball at Pikeville 2 p.m. at SCAD Smash Hit Tournament
Women's Tennis vs. California (Pa.) at Orlando, Fla.
March 7: Baseball vs. Concord 2 p.m. 2010 Savannah Invitational

March 8: Baseball vs. West Liberty State 2 p.m. 2010 Savannah Invitational
Softball vs. Ohio Valley 4 p.m. at SCAD Smash Hit Tournament
March 9: Tennis vs. Washington (Mo.) 1 p.m.
Baseball vs. California (Pa.) 2 p.m. 2010 Savannah Invitational
March 10: Softball vs. Tusculum 2 p.m.
Softball vs. Tusculum 4 p.m.

Pirates host 2010 Savannah Invitational

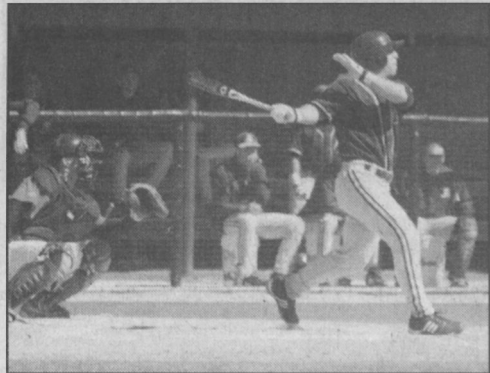
By Adam Geigerman
Sports Editor
sports.inkwell@gmail.com

The AASU Pirate baseball program began its 2010 Savannah Invitational with a sour one-run loss to Missouri-St. Louis, but has redeemed itself with three convincing wallopings in a row.

The Pirates entered their hometown tournament on a five-game win streak, following a pitching masterpiece by Thomas Grey at Augusta State on Feb. 23.

AASU's tournament hosts six different schools from many different regions and states. The 12-day affair began on Feb. 26 and will continue until March 9.

Thus far, the Pirates (11-3) lost to Tritons in the first of two games against them. The Feb. 26 loss was attributed to



Photos by Luke Armstrong

Drew Walker hit a triple to bring in the first run of the game against Missouri-St. Louis as the Pirates went on to win, 5-4, on Feb. 28.

Chris Base (1-1) for his three run, 1/3 of an inning.

The doubleheader games of Feb. 27 illustrated the short-term memory of the Pirate squad, turning the one-run loss from the day before into two opposite but still victorious affairs.

Game one of the doubleheader featured a rematch between the Pirates and the visiting Tritons. Late inning heroics by Josh Wilson plated the winning run, granting the Pirates a pulse-raising 5-4 victory at Pirate Field on the AASU campus. Chris Rabe snagged the win with his relief performance while Triton pitcher Kenny Ford swallowed his first loss in 2010.

Game two of the doubleheader pitted the Pirates verses the Knights from Queens, N.Y. The game was an utter pounding. The Pirates scored at will, posting a momentary season high for runs with their 17-3 win. Blake Culberson notched the win for the AASU team, and Robert O'Neill suffered the loss for

the Knights. The eight-run sixth inning broke the game wide open, providing a blow-out that would be difficult to mimic.

The final game against Queens proved the great quality of the Pirate offense, as they took their blowout win from the day before to the next level. AASU shel-lacked the Knights again, putting up 18 runs to the Knights' 2.

The third Pirate win in four days brought Jonathon Fulghum his first win as a Pirate. Fulghum fired five innings of one-hit baseball as he rung up seven K's. His superior pitching was opposed by the Knights' Gabriel Guerrero's five-run, one inning of work. Jake Sutton led the Pirates with four hits while others contributed with an arsenal of stolen bases, RBIs and the necessary hits that posted the 2010 high of 18 runs.



Top-ranked Pirates collect 8-1 win over No. 13 Florida Southern

Courtesy of
Sports Communications

The top-ranked and defending NCAA Division II men's tennis team remained unbeaten on the 2010 season with an 8-1 victory over No. 13-ranked Florida Southern at Bacon Park, and 9-0 Peach Belt Conference (PBC) win over Columbus State (CSU) at the Blackmon Tennis Center in Columbus, Ga.

The Pirates (8-0) handed the Mocs (3-3) their third straight loss – with all three of Florida Southern's losses coming to the top three-ranked teams in the nation.

AASU swept all three doubles matches to take a 3-0 lead, but two of the three were close affairs. The fourth-ranked duo of Rafael Array and Mikk Irdoja edged Michael Knoedler and Roman Schirmaier, 9-7, at No. 1 doubles, while Matus Mydla and Daniel Regan defeated Brian de Montfort and Ben Taylor by the same 9-7 score at No. 2 doubles. Eudaldo Bonet and Paul Fitzgerald knocked off Guenther Fercher and Christian Lange, 8-3, at No. 3 doubles to complete the sweep.

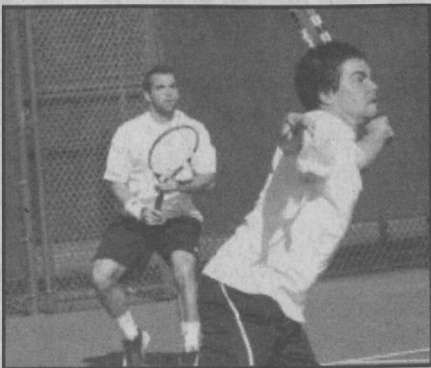


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications
The Pirates dominated in doubles action with Paul Fitzgerald and Eudaldo Bonet.

The Pirates then won five of six singles matches – all in straight sets. Seventh-ranked Irdoja defeated 39th-ranked Schirmaier, 6-3, 6-4, at No. 2 singles, while fifth-ranked Array defeated Lange, 6-2, 6-2, at No. 3 singles. Mydla notched a 6-1, 6-3 win over Nicolas Bigler at No. 4 singles and Regan beat C.J. Johnson, 6-4, 6-2, at No. 5 singles. 38th-ranked Fitzgerald defeated Taylor, 6-4, 7-5, at No. 6 singles.

Florida Southern's only point came when Knoedler knocked off Bonet, 7-5, 6-3, at No. 1 singles.

The Pirates (9-0, 5-0 PBC) handed CSU (4-3, 0-1 PBC) its second straight loss to a top 10-ranked foe while keeping its string of consecutive PBC points won alive at 45.

AASU swept all three doubles matches, including a ranked showdown at No. 1 with fourth-ranked Array and Irdoja defeated eighth-ranked Christophe Noblet and Frank Suarez, 9-7. Mydla and Regan notched an 8-4 win over Gordan Divljak and Martin Shiskov, while Bonet and Fitzgerald

collected an 8-3 win over Ne-manja Djuric and Diego Motivar at No. 3 doubles.

The Pirates then swept all six singles matches in straight sets to complete the victory. Seventh-ranked Irdoja defeated 16th-ranked Suarez, 6-3, 6-2, at No. 1 singles, while Bonet notched a 6-2, 7-5 win over Oliver Simonet at No. 2 singles. Fifth-ranked Array bested Divljak, 6-1, 6-1, at No. 3 singles.

Mydla defeated Noblet, 6-4, 6-2, at No. 4 singles for AASU, with Regan notching a 6-2, 6-0 win over Motivar and 38th-ranked Fitzgerald beating Djuric, 6-4, 6-1, at No. 6 singles.

Lady Pirates dominate the court

Courtesy of
Sports Communications

The top-ranked and defending two-time NCAA Division II AASU women's tennis team collected a 9-0 victory over No. 29-ranked Georgia College & State University (GCSU) at the Centennial Center Tennis Facility in Milledgeville, and over the No. 8-ranked Columbus State (CSU) at the Blackmon Tennis Center in Columbus, Ga.

The Lady Pirates (7-0, 5-0 PBC) extended their current regular season Peach Belt Conference (PBC) winning streak to 68 with the victories, a streak that dates back to 2003. GCSU (2-2, 0-1 PBC) suffered the loss in its 2010 conference opener.

AASU began the match by sweeping all three doubles matches. The third-ranked duo of Alida Muller-Wehlau and Martina Beckmann collected an 8-4 win over Bertille Lion and Diane Danna at No. 1 doubles. Fourth-ranked Gabriella Kovacs and Sona Novakova defeated Kayla Barksdale and Michelle Lingner, 8-3, at No. 2 doubles while the 15th-ranked duo of Kathleen Henry and Tina Ronel defeated Adriana

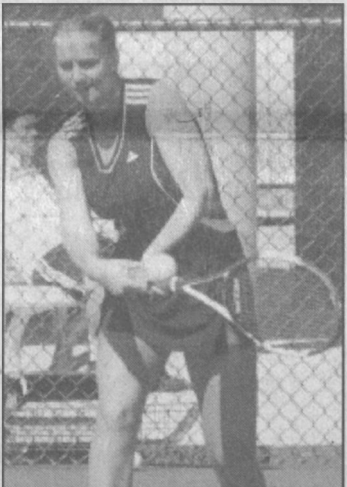


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

Lady Pirates tennis maintains a perfect season through flawless play by Sona Novakova.

Acuna and Linda Mosa, 8-3, at No. 3 doubles.

The Lady Pirates then won all six singles matches in straight sets. Top-ranked Novakova defeated Danna, 6-1, 6-1, at No. 1 singles and fifth-ranked Muller-Wehlau beat Barksdale, 6-2, 6-1, at No. 2 singles. No. 38-ranked Ronel downed Lion, 6-3, 6-1, at No. 3 singles and 24th-ranked Beckmann defeated Lingner, 6-0, 6-2, at No. 5 singles.

Henry knocked off Mosa, 6-2, 6-2, at No. 6 singles and Alisa Kagukina blanked Acuna, 6-0, 6-0, at No. 6 singles to complete the sweep.

The Lady Pirates (8-0,

6-0 PBC) did drop their first point of the 2010 dual match season, while handing CSU (8-2, 2-1 PBC) its first PBC loss of the campaign.

The No. 3-ranked duo of Beckmann and Muller-Wehlau defeated the duo of Loriane Favoretto and Hanae Toumi, 8-4, at No. 1 doubles. No. 4-ranked Kovacs and Novakova knocked off Tracy Castillo and Carterina Kiefer, 8-0, at No. 2 doubles, but the CSU duo of Gabriela Vasilescu and Sofia Persson became the first to grab a point from the Lady Pirates in 2010, defeating 15th-ranked Henry and Ronel, 8-6, at No. 3 doubles.

Top-ranked Novakova led the sweep in singles for AASU by blanking the reigning PBC Player of the Week, Favoretto, 6-0, 6-0, at No. 1 singles. Fifth-ranked Muller-Wehlau swept Castillo, 6-0, 6-2, at No. 2 singles, while 38th-ranked Ronel beat Persson, 6-4, 6-1, at No. 3 singles.

24th-ranked Kovacs defeated Kiefer, 6-3, 6-3, at No. 4 singles for the Lady Pirates while Beckmann downed Vasilescu, 6-3, 6-4, at No. 5 singles. Henry completed the sweep with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Andrea Redrado at No. 6 singles.

Lady Pirates place third in Catawaba

Courtesy of
Sports Communications

SALISBURY, N.C. – The AASU softball squad finished third in the 2010 Catawba Invitational, defeating Glennville State, 10-2 in six innings, but falling to No. 20-ranked Wayne State (Mich.), 2-1, in eight innings in the Pirates' semifinal game.

AASU improves to 8-4 on the season after going 4-2 in the Catawba Invitational over the weekend.

The Pirates, the fourth seed in the knockout round on Feb. 28, downed the 12th-seeded Pioneers in the early morning contest to earn a berth in the semifinals. Freshman Kristy King hit her first collegiate

home run in the contest and freshman Shelby Duff hurled four innings of three-hit ball, striking out four to pick up the victory.

Against the nationally-ranked Warriors, the Pirates scored a first-inning run on an April Jowers single, stolen base, ground ball and wild pitch to take an early 1-0 lead. Wayne State came back to tie the game and scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth, using the international tiebreaker rule. Megan Barnwell hurled a complete-game four-hitter, striking out four, to take the hard-luck loss for the Pirates. AASU outhit Wayne State, 6-4, in the contest.

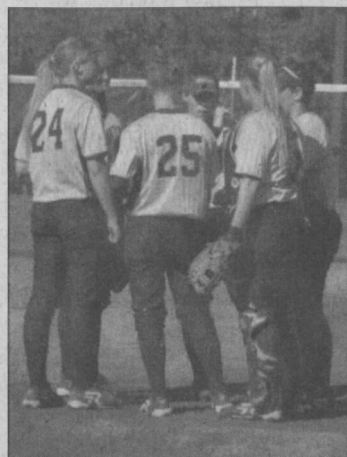


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

The Lady Pirates stormed the softball diamond at the Catawba Invitational in North Carolina, finishing in third place for the tournament.

AASU closes basketball season with Senior Night, Homecoming highlights

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter

The homecoming festivities came to a close with the AASU basketball teams matching up against Francis Marion University (FMU) on Feb. 27.

It was also senior night, and both the men's and women's teams took time to show some appreciation to their senior players for all they have done in their time at AASU.

The Lady Pirates faced the uneasy task of trying to knock off the No. 18-ranked Lady Patriots in their final game of the year.

During the first half the Lady Pirates looked as though they were going to hang with FMU throughout the game. But a 14-4 to end the half gave the Lady Patriots a nine-point lead, 51-42.

Coming out of halftime FMU took over the game. A combination of high defensive pressure and quick scoring offense left the Lady Pirates scrambling for answers.

Those answers didn't come as FMU cruised to an easy 104-81 victory. Despite the loss, AASU head coach Matt Schmidt was still proud of his team, especially the seniors, for enduring the rough season they have had this year.

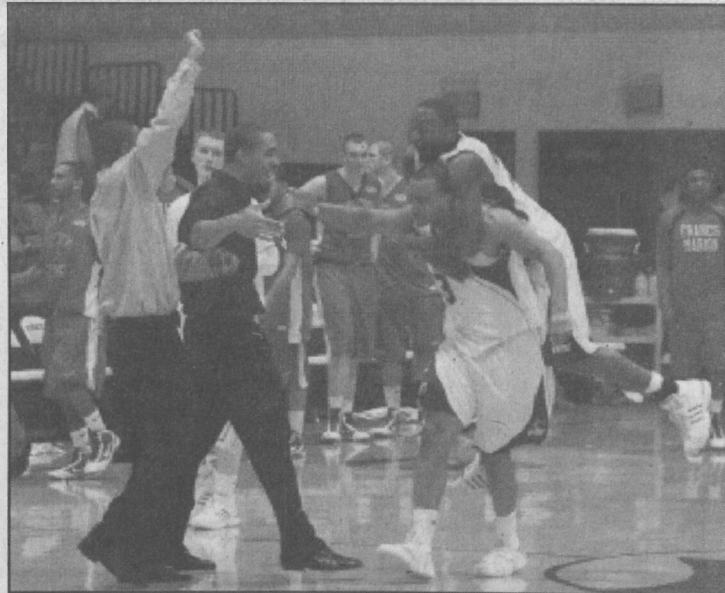
"They went out battling. I'm proud of their effort and appreciate everything they have done for their career and Armstrong women's basketball," Schmidt said.

Despite the Pirate men's team leading by as much as 17 in the first half, it took a 3-pointer with 4.4 seconds to go in the game by Keron McKenzie to seal the deal for AASU.

In the first half, the game appeared to be all Pirates. AASU was in total control of the flow of the game, and there was nothing FMU could do to stop them.

Going into intermission, the Pirates were up by 15, 46-31, shooting 55.6 percent from the floor, hitting 8-14 3-pointers and were 8-10 from the free-throw line.

But FMU came out on fire



Photos by Luke Armstrong

Keron McKenzie, who hit the game-winning shot, celebrates with his teammates after the 78-76 win against Francis Marion University on Senior Night.

in the second half. The Patriots went on a 22-4 run to open the half to go up 56-53 on the Pirates taking their first lead of the game since being up 5-3 in the first half.

After giving up such a huge point margin the Pirates could have just packed it in, but they refused to quit.

With just 27 seconds to go in the game McKenzie made two free throws to cut the Patriots' lead to just one, 76-75.

Then Patrick Shokpeka grabbed the rebound after a FMU miss on the other end to give the Pirates a chance to set up for the win with just 19 to go.

Gabriel Robinson drove into the hole and kicked it back out to the perimeter. The Pirates kept the ball along the perimeter and after a couple quick passes found McKenzie, who had a wide-open look from three, and he knocked down the game-winning shot for AASU.

"It's a surreal feeling, to go



Patrick Shokpeka scored 20 points and eight rebounds in the narrow win on Feb. 27.

out like that in our last home game. It's just a great feeling," McKenzie said.

With the win the Pirates picked up their seventh win in the last nine games. And after starting out the conference season 0-9 the Pirates (7-11 PBC) will play in the Peach Belt Conference tournament as the four seed from the East Division.

"I'm proud of our kids and what they've accomplished this season," said head coach Jeremy Luther. "It's a credit to our team for keeping the faith."



Geigermania: East vs. West

By Adam Geigerman
Sports Editor
sports.inkwell@gmail.com

The battle rages on. The most prolific, yet peaceful, regional warfare since the Civil War has dominated North American popular culture, from hip-hop music to sports for decades, season-in, season-out.

East vs. West. Tupac vs. Biggie. Magic vs. Bird. The NBA Finals, NHL Playoffs and the NCAA basketball regionals host the most tear-jerking, heartbreaking, riot-inducing and elation-riddled battles in the history of competition.

The battles crown champions and breed vengeance while promoting fiery rivalries that envelope entire populations.

March Madness is bursting bubbles and awarding monstrous basketballers the opportunity to slip on Cinderella's glass slipper, as awkward as it may

sound, and it's doing it all while being split into regional brackets — including an East and West.

Even exhibition leagues compete for superiority. Major League Baseball divides itself every February and March and heads for both an East and West Coast spring training destination. Most MLB teams from the East Coast are destined for the Grapefruit League, a Floridian escape for their preseason, while the Westerners make their pilgrimages to the Cactus League in Arizona's southwestern paradise.

Both states compete to host the Spring Training camps along with their fans, teams, vacationers and above all else, their money.

The PGA Tour begins its season on a West Coast sweep in the heavenly Hawaiian Islands before its

stop in the iconic hills of Pebble Beach. The tour makes a final West Coast appearance in Cardinal Country at the TPC Scottsdale in Arizona. The gentlemen's game is sent eastward in the most unorthodox fashion by the Arizonians. The stadium course is the only in the world of its kind, boasting raucous and rabid fans complete with foam-fingers and beer. The boos, "Get in the Hole!" and "USA!" chants are hurled at every tour professional brave enough to swing his stick on the par-3 16th hole.

The Western display of fanhood utterly opposes the atmosphere of the Eastside swing; one that will present the royal prestige of Augusta National and release the rage of the Blue Monster at Doral.

All biases aside, the East

The battles crown
championships and
breed vengeance...

Breast cancer awareness turns Pirates pink

By Zachary Sinclair
Staff Reporter

AASU Athletics has jumped on a current trend sweeping the athletic world.

They have started making everyone aware of breast cancer, and it is not only one team, but the entire athletic department getting involved, and raising funds to help fight this terrible disease. The men's and women's teams both had a breast cancer awareness game on Feb. 24 in which both had a Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Zone game to promote breast cancer awareness.

Both the men's and women's teams kept their post-season hopes alive with solid victories over UNC Pembroke. The women's team overcame an 18-point deficit and broke a school record draining 13 3-point shots.

UNC Pembroke jumped to a 37-19 lead with 1:48 left in the first half, but the lady pirates sunk three 3-pointers to make the score at the half 37-28.

The second half would be a lot closer game with AASU battling back and taking the lead making the score 61-60 with 5:09 left.

UNC Pembroke's Ja-Toya Kemp, who scored 12 straight points at the end of the second half to force overtime, with 11 seconds left, tied the score at 69-69.

Overtime proved to be just as exciting as the second half with four lead changes.

Lauren Hall's 3-pointer put AASU up, 80-78, with 1:14 left; the 3-pointer was

the 13th of the game for the Lady Pirates, setting a new school single-game record. The old record of 12 was set against GCSU on Feb. 16, 2005 and again against Shaw on Nov. 25, 2006.

While the men would go on to win three straight games and clinch a post-season spot in the PBC East Division.

They sold T-Shirts for \$10 all week to which all proceeds went to the Kay Yow/ Women's Basketball Coaches' Association breast cancer awareness fund. There was a great turn out by fans that also got into the spirit of the fundraiser by wearing pink.

Local breast cancer survivors were invited to attend the game courtesy of the Komen Coastal Georgia and the American Cancer Society and were announced and introduced to the crowd before the games.

During halftime students from Mercer Middle School, a local middle school, sang "I Run for Life," a song dedicated to breast cancer patients.

While the song was performed, the Student Athletic Advisory Council members created a huge breast cancer awareness ribbon made out of pieces of pink fabric. The fabric was cut into foot-long increments with the names of survivors, provided by AASU students, faculty and staff to honor anyone affected by the disease.

Members of the women's team also went and visited local breast cancer treatment centers around Savannah during the month of February to talk to breast cancer patients while they

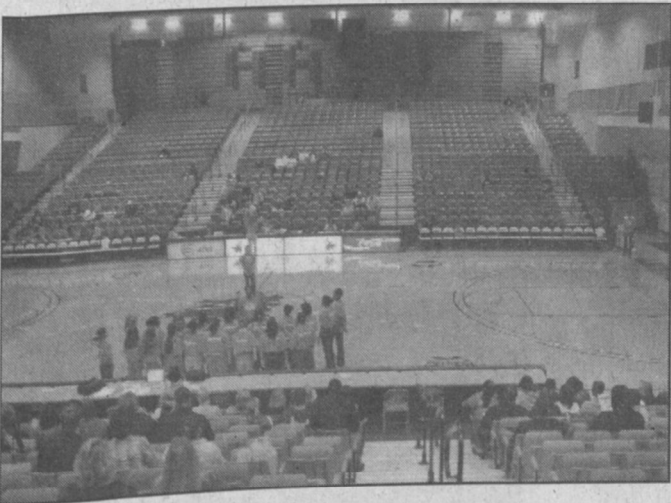
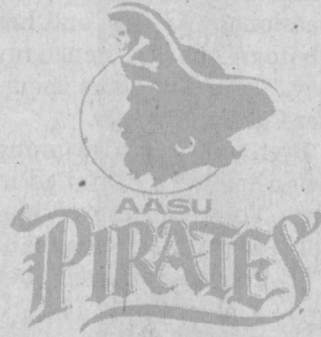
received chemotherapy.

Victoria Bennett, a sophomore golfer for the AASU women's team, was affected by breast cancer when her mom was diagnosed with the disease.

"I think it's great what AASU is doing by making everyone aware of breast cancer and raising money for the cause." She said.

When asked what inspiration she draws from her mom, who overcame the disease, Bennett said, "She's the strongest person I know, and if she can overcome something like that I can do anything I set my mind to."

AASU's awareness efforts aim to get more people involved to help prevent women from getting breast cancer in the future, and one day help to find a cure for it.



Photos by Hank Sharpe

AASU Athletics' Pink Zone Night raises breast cancer awareness through many different activities. The athletic department representatives stretch a commemorative awareness ribbon across the length of the floor. The ribbon features names of anyone affected by the disease, as contributed by AASU students. The Pirate Crazy's took part in the events by changing the color of their body painting ritual. Instead of the usual Pirate maroon and gold, they used pink paint to serve the cause.

Pirates' Plunder

AASU Sports Trivia, previews and more

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter



AASU Sports Trivia

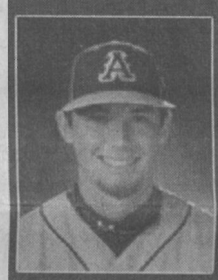
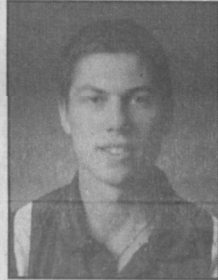
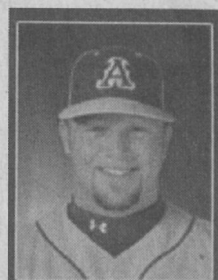
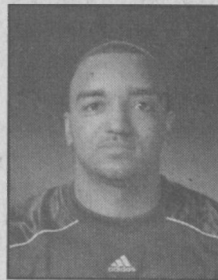
- 1.) What two records did AASU softball players break in their game against East Stroudsburg on Feb. 27?
- 2.) Who was the previous single-game record holder for AASU softball for RBI?
- 3.) What is the single-game record for home runs for AASU softball?
- 4.) Who is the only senior listed on the softball team's roster this season?
- 5.) Who leads the Pirate softball team in ERA so far this season?

Check your answers at the bottom of the page.

national hockey. The NHL pits the best of the West vs. the beast from the East for their Stanley Cup Championship trophy.

North Americans are eyeballs deep in the most passionate encrusted turf war in the history of regional conflicts. Keep watching, fighting and representing. Get it. Got it. Good.

PBC weekly awards added to six Pirate résumés



Photos courtesy of Sports Communications
Pirate Athletics features six all-around winners. From top left: Keron McKenzie, Megan Barnwell, Thomas Gray, Mikko Irdja, Sona Novakova and Cameron Scott.

Courtesy of Sports
Communications

AASU athletics picked up six weekly Peach Belt Conference (PBC) honors as Thomas Gray, Cameron Scott, Megan Barnwell, Keron McKenzie, Mikko Irdja and Sona Novakova were awarded the honors.

Gray went 1-0 with a 1.20 ERA in two starts for the Pirates last week. He hurled his first complete game as a Pirate in a 3-2 win at Augusta State. The Ringgold, Ga., native followed that up with six innings of two-hit shutout ball in the Pirates' 5-4 win over Missouri-St. Louis.

Scott hit .417 for the Pirates in four games. The Griffin, Ga., native collected at least one hit in all four games for a .563 on-base percentage.

AASU softball was also honored as freshman pitcher Megan Barnwell was named the PBC softball Freshman of the Week by league officials.

Barnwell went 1-1 with a 1.35 ERA in three starts for the Pirates, helping AASU finish third at the 2010 Catawba Invitational.

The Brooklet, Ga., native gave up just 13 hits in 20 2/3 innings, striking out 21. She hurled a four-hit shutout in AASU's 1-0 win over host Catawba.

Barnwell is 3-1 with a 1.03 ERA in six starts this season for the Pirates, striking out 40 batters in 34 innings pitched, giving up just 22 hits and holding opposing batters to just a .193 batting average.

Tennis couldn't be left out of the awards, thanks to Junior Mikko Irdja being named the PBC Men's Tennis Player of the Week, announced by league officials. For the first time in 2010, AASU has swept the weekly tennis honors as Sona Novakova also earned the women's tennis honor this week.

The weekly honor is the third

for Irdja in his career — he was the league's Player of the Week twice last season, on March 10 and on April 13.

Pirate senior guard Keron McKenzie completed the six-some of Pirates given the PBC awards; McKenzie received the award for men's basketball announced by league officials.

McKenzie earned the final Player of the Week honor for the 2009-10 season for the Pirates, who earned the No. 4 seed in the PBC East Division with two wins this week thanks in large part to the playing of the senior from Stone Mountain, Ga.

With 4.4 seconds remaining and the Pirates down by one to Francis Marion on Saturday evening, McKenzie drilled a 3-pointer that earned AASU a 78-76 win over the Patriots — three of his game-high 26 points on the evening. McKenzie also had 16 points in the Pirates' 81-62 win over UNC Pembroke earlier in the week.

The senior averaged 21.0 points per game on the week, while also hitting 86 percent from the free-throw line (12-of-14). He currently ranks fourth in the PBC in 3-pointers made with 64 and also ranks 21st in the league in scoring, averaging 12.7 points per game.

AASU Sports Trivia Answers

- 1.) Baillie Temple set a new AASU record for RBI in a single game with 10, and Ashley Jowers became the first AASU softball player to get five hits in a single game.
- 2.) Ashley Bain set the previous record when she got seven RBI last season against Eckerd.
- 3.) In the same game against Eckerd on Feb. 20, 2009, Bain hit three home runs, setting a new record for AASU and tying the PBC record.
- 4.) For the 2010 season, Nicole Huddleston stands alone as the only senior on the softball squad.
- 5.) With an ERA of 1.03 in 34 innings pitched, Megan Barnwell leads the team in the early stages of the 2010 season.

On the horizon

Softball:
Mar. 5:



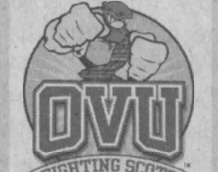
vs. Wingate

March 6



at SCAD Smash Hit Tournament
at Paulson Softball Complex

March 8



at Ohio Valley at SCAD Smash
Hit Tournament

March 10



vs. Tusculum

Tennis:

March 5



vs. Lynn at Bacon Park
#1 vs. #3 -- AASU caravan will
leave the Sports Center parking
lot at 1:45 p.m.

March 6



Women's at California (Pa.) at
Orlando, Fla.

Baseball:

March 7



vs. Concord at 2010 Savannah
Invitational

March 8



vs. West Liberty State at 2010
Savannah Invitational

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

March 4: The AASU Invitational Alumni Art Exhibition, which began Feb. 25, continues through March 10. Selected alumni artwork can be seen in the AASU Fine Arts Gallery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays.

Meet up with HOLA in Reynold's Square at 7:30 p.m. for a ghost walk through Savannah's historic downtown. Anyone needing transportation can call Melody Rodriguez at (912) 344-2652.

AASU's Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) presents "Last Train to Nibroc." The World War II-era play begins at 7:30 p.m. through March 6 and at 2:30 p.m. on March 7 at BCM. Admission is \$5.

March 6: Wake up early for the Tybee Bike Event. The SRC-sponsored event begins at 10 a.m. on Tybee Island.

The United States Navy Concert Band performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free.

March 9: Savannah Winds, AASU's symphony in residence, presents "Spring Fling" at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$14.

March 10: You still have to get up and go to class, but don't bother with make-up and ties. Pajamas are the theme of Wednesday's SGA-sponsored Spirit Day.

Indie-folk rockers bring fresh sound to Savannah

Now You See Them plays Sentient Bean

By Andrea Cervone
Staff Reporter

Asheville, N.C.-based band Now You See Them (NYST) returns to Savannah to perform at the Sentient Bean on Friday, March 5, at 8 p.m. This acoustic indie/folk pop trio has captivated audiences with their onstage ingenuity and their incorporation of nontraditional instruments.

"Our instrumentation is really unique. Shane [Conerty] plays a ukulele, Jason [Mencer] plays a hand percussion instead of a full drum set, and I play a melodica," said band member Dulci Ellenberger. "Even our vocal blending is really not traditional. We take people by surprise and our music tends to make them feel really good, whether they want to or not."

Through a combination of beautiful harmonies and burning lyrics, NYST creates a truly unique sound that has been described as a "breath of fresh air."

"A lot of music being made today kind of all falls into the same genre, and I think we are just different and that's



Photo courtesy of Ryan Smith/Tone Photography

Now You See Them, shown here performing at Highland Brewery in Asheville, N.C., will play with Venice is Sinking at the Sentient Bean on March 5.

why people say that about us," Mencer said. "Our two-part harmonies combine with the instruments to form a really cool sound."

The band was originally formed in Sydney, Australia. After meeting in New York, Ellenberger, Conerty and Mencer decided they wanted to travel the world together. Hawaii came first, followed four months later by Sydney, Australia.

"We were working odd jobs and playing music at bars and clubs in Sydney to kind of get by and save up travel money," Ellenberger said. "Then immigration discovered us making money without the proper papers and we all got deported."

After reconvening in Asheville, NYST ventured out with a much stronger commitment to the band.

"We have been really seri-

ous about it since we moved to Asheville, which was about two years ago," Ellenberger said. "The year we played in Australia we hadn't really figured it out yet, we didn't know each other well enough, and we just weren't ready for the commitment."

With a newfound dedication, NYST began fine-tuning their sound and making strides to become one of Asheville's hottest bands.

"We try to get the crowd singing and dancing, just getting into the show. Once people see us they are engaged, and they have a really good time," Mencer said. "We are getting fans in the right way now; people are walking away from shows smiling."

By combining somber lyr-

ics with seemingly happy chord progressions and melodies, NYST hopes to convey a message.

"We really try to combine dark and light aspects into our songs, and we do that to show that there is still hope that things can change," Mencer said. "Lots of the songs are travel journals of experiences we have had, and we portray them in a way that helps people look at how great things turned out, despite some horrible experiences."

Fans can look forward to NYST's first ever professionally recorded EP in the not too distant future. The band also plans to work on their first full-length album while touring with the EP.

Friday night attendees at the Sentient Bean will get more than coffee and pastries for their \$3 cover charge.

"You can expect a really good time, fun beautiful music that will sound different to your ears, and of course a sweaty hug," Conerty said.

To hear NYST's music, visit www.myspace.com/nowyouseethem.

Artist portrays Savannah architecture, landscapes through photography

By Amanda Dickey
Staff Reporter

Local photographer Margaret Brennan will showcase her work at the Jewish Educational Alliance (JEA) art gallery on Sunday, March 7. "Margaret Brennan: A Savannah Retrospective" will include photographs of her well known floral portraits, award-winning landscapes and architecture. It will also debut a series of photographs taken in France in 2009.

"I've always loved flowers. At one point, I started taking photographs of flowers. I joined a photography club and was able to get juried into the exhibit. It was my flowers that got me going. I was always very inspired by Georgia O'Keefe because she was a painter of flowers," Brennan said. "When I got to Savannah, when I saw the gardens and the architecture and how compelling and beautiful they were, I began to branch out. Being older, I'm just eager



Photos courtesy of Margret Brennan

"Tybee Pier," pictured above, is one of many photos featured in "Margaret Brennan: A Savannah Retrospective."

to try everything."

Brennan moved to Savannah in 2002, and the Georgia coast has been a source of major inspiration for her creativity.

"Back in New York, after I retired, I went to the International Center of Photography in Manhattan," Brennan said, shedding light on her history with photography. "When I got here, I started to use the knowledge I had learned there with Photoshop and other

techniques. I do my own print work. I went out and did my own infrared film, and now I do infrared back and white with the digital camera."

According to Vicky Lunick, art gallery coordinator at the JEA, Brennan changed the name and theme of her upcoming exhibit.

"A couple weeks ago she called and told me she completely changed the theme from 'Thank You, Georgia

O'Keefe' to the 'Margaret Brennan: A Savannah Retrospective' exhibit," Lunick said.

When asked about the change in her theme and title, Brennan said, "I just had a flower exhibit at Cutter's Point coffee shop, and it dawned on me that this show is not just a repeat of the flowers. It's the flowers plus all the landscapes and architecture. The flowers will be in the show but that's only a small part of it. There will be 60 to 70 pieces."

Brennan's artwork has also been displayed at various clubs in The Landings, a private community on Skidaway Island.

"Gardening and floral arrangement have been my passions for years, and her photographs brightened my day," said Landings member Carolyn Brooks.

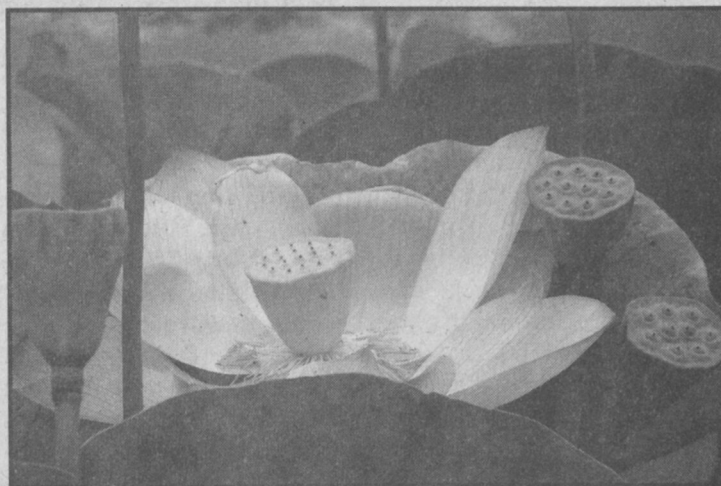
Brennan's award-winning work has been exhibited in New York, Martha's Vineyard, Mass., and Savannah.

"I've always enjoyed pho-

tographing, but it is fun to be able to print your own work. It's a challenge. When you do something and see it on the computer, it's not what necessarily what you get when you print it out. I spend a lot of time doing this," Brennan said. "I was a golfer and I stopped playing golf because I'd get frustrated seeing all the beautiful flowers when I was on the golf course and I'd want to take pictures of them and I wouldn't be able

to. Finally, I said, it's one or the other. So I chose photography."

"Margaret Brennan: A Savannah Retrospective" began March 1 at the JEA on 5111 Abercorn St. Brennan's works will be displayed in the JEA gallery until March 29. There will be a reception on March 7 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.



"Serendipity" is one of Margaret Brennan's photographs being showcased throughout March at the JEA gallery.

Student sax player takes Fine Arts stage

Michael Fahey clears graduation hurdle with upcoming recital

By Macey Tryon
Staff Reporter

When choosing a major for college, students begin thinking of what they're passionate about. AASU student Michael Fahey's passion is music.

Fahey is a music education major who has played saxophone for roughly 15 years. An extremely driven musician, he spends hours dedicating his time as the director of the Early Music Ensemble and the vice president of the Collegiate Music Educators National Conference (CMENC). As if that's not enough, he's also a member of Savannah Winds.

Fahey first entered AASU's music education program in 2001. After taking some time off, he's back in the rhythm and hitting every note. "[Fahey] is very professional and organized," said CMENC president Leah Hannon.

Time is a precious thing to music education students. Both Fahey and Hannon said that they

are at school as early as 8:30 a.m. They don't get to leave until late in the evening due to classes, practices, performances and meetings.

"You can't have a job and be a music major," Fahey said. One of the most inspiring educators in Fahey's life is music professor Dr. Randall Reese, who advised and instructed Fahey even before his days at AASU. Their relationship began when Fahey attended Savannah Arts Academy. Fahey, who at the time specialized in instrumental music, met Reese through a scholarship program offered through the Savannah Symphony. Fahey said that Reese has been "very critical to the entire process."

Without hesitation, Fahey said his mother is one of the most influential people in his

life. Throughout his saxophone career, she has always taken the initiative and has been to every concert. Fahey said that even when he took a break from school, his mother kept him from "remaining stagnant."

Fahey will be accompanied by pianist Kelli Horton in his upcoming graduation recital. The performance not only fulfills requirements for a bachelor's degree in music education, but it also celebrates Fahey's musical accomplishments.

"I'm Michael's guide through the process. He decides what pieces will go together," Reese said. "He develops those skills now so that he can be prepared in the future."

Michael Fahey's graduation recital will be held March 4 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. The recital is free and open to all students. A reception will follow in the Fine Arts Gallery.



Photo courtesy of Michael Fahey

Music education student Michael Fahey, pictured above playing his saxophone, will perform his graduation recital on March 4 in the AASU Fine Arts Auditorium.

**Stay
Entertained
in Savannah**

THINKmusic

On Thursday, March 4 at 10 p.m., Savannah singer-songwriter Lauren LaPointe joins Atlanta folk singer Rebecca Loeb and pop rocker Robby Hecht at the Sentient Bean. Wisconsin-based prog metal band Wrath of Girth will join Savannah hard rockers Mudd Puppett at the Wormhole at 10 p.m., no cover charge.

First Friday for Folk is back with Dorian Michael and Cosy Sheridan on March 5. The music starts at 7:30 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church on 520 E. Washington Ave. Athens, Ga., pop rockers Venice is Sinking join Asheville, N.C., folk band Now You See Them and Denver, Colo., rockers Flashbulb Fries at the Sentient Bean, tickets are \$3. At 9 p.m., the Shane Pruitt Band and lil Jimmy Peterman will be at Live Wire Music Hall on 307 W. River St. for an evening of southern blues rock, tickets are \$8.

New York folk rockers Softspot play a free show at the Sentient Bean at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 6. Renowned jam rocker Keller Williams plays Live Wire Music Hall at 9 p.m., tickets are \$23. At 10 p.m., Charlotte, N.C., punk legends ANTISEEN take the stage at the Jinx at 127 W. Congress St. Also Saturday, Washington, D.C., indie-rockers Caustic Cassanova come to the Wormhole at 10:30 p.m. Joining them are Rock Hill, S.C., hip-hop/rock fusion band Zack Fowler and the Essentials.

Columbia, S.C., hard rock band Face Down plays a cover-free show at the Wormhole on Monday, March 8 at 10 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. the Savannah Children's Choir presents Esperanza Spalding at Lucas Theater on 216 E. Broughton St., tickets range from \$5 to \$75. Songwriting legend Gordon Lightfoot comes to the Savannah Civic Center at 8 p.m., tickets range from \$39 to \$49. At 10 p.m., Nashville, Tenn., southern punk rockers the Black List Royals join Fairfield, Iowa electro-pop duo Porno Galactica at the Wormhole, no cover charge.

THINKMovies

The River Club at 3 MLK Jr. Blvd hosts two free film screenings on Thursday, March 4. Following the showing of "Died Young, Stayed Pretty" at 7 p.m., director Eileen Yaghoobian will participate in a Q&A session with audience members. Bike culture documentary "Veer" begins at 9 p.m.

The wait for Tim Burton's adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" is over. The film, starring Johnny Depp and Anne Hathaway, opens Friday, March 5. The film can be seen in Disney Digital 3D at Carmike 10, 5111 Stephenson Ave. and Regal Savannah Stadium 10, 1132-34 Shawnee St. Also opening Friday at Carmike 10 is Antoine Fuqua's New York cop drama "Brooklyn's Finest," starring Don Cheadle and Richard Gere.

At 8 p.m. Friday, The Savannah College of Art and Design hosts the Black Maria Film and Video Festival. The independent film festival, which has toured annually since 1981, begins at 8 p.m. at Trustees Theater on 216 E. Broughton St. Tickets are \$5. Cult film "Bare Knuckles" (1977) screens at the Sentient Bean at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, tickets are \$5.

Jazz wunderkind to play in Savannah

By Travis Morningstar
Staff Reporter

Jazz phenomenon Esperanza Spalding makes a momentary stop at the Lucas Theater on March 9 during her whirlwind national tour.

Spalding will be featured as the latest artist-in-residence joining Savannah Children's Choir (SCC) in a benefit concert intended to inspire and educate local children as well as accomplish the feat of bringing a major musical talent to Savannah.

"We really sympathize with each artist we feature as artist-in-residence, like when we featured Rachel Waiters to portray opera as not just a 'white thing,' as well as when we hosted a performance by Keith Miller to show that singing is not a 'sissy' activity as some people perceive it," said SCC co-founder Cuffy Sullivan. "As for Esperanza, she makes music cool."

As for the artists involved in the program, Sullivan emphasized the critical role of the performer in the children's understanding of alternate avenues in the realm of music.

"The artist-in-residence

reveals to the children that there are these career tracks for music – and well, everything is for the kids," she said. "We're excited in particular for Esperanza to perform because we've never featured someone who is both an amazing vocalist and a brilliant musician – Esperanza is both."

The show is a godsend for the avid jazz aficionado on a budget, as its appeal rests not only in the unprecedented powers of Spalding's jazz prowess but also the meager price of admission.

"This extremely rare opportunity is not to be missed," Sullivan said. Tickets for students are \$5.

Esperanza's story is compelling in its sheer variety of roots in multiple cultures, as well as her progression from child of the slums of Portland, Ore., to becoming one of the youngest instructors in the history of the Berklee College of Music. She is hailed today as a bass virtuoso and simply a musical prodigy.

"She is undoubtedly one of the greatest things in jazz right now, both a phenomenal bass player and singer," said SCC co-founder Roger Moss. "And she brings along

with her an incredible message of perseverance, and that's something we'd like all students to take away."

Spalding's stage credentials alone have the city of Savannah buzzing with anticipation.

"It is simply unbelievable for Savannah to be receiving this fantastic musician," Moss said. "I mean, we're talking about a performer who has sung at the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony."

Spalding was hand picked by President Barack Obama for the Nobel concert, as is the tradition of one laureate-invited-artist to perform.

Spalding's status as artist-in-residence allows her time to share and instill her musical experience in the children of local schools, as well as imparting the amount of work and dedication to achieve success. In addition, SCC members will be allowed invaluable one-on-one time with Spalding as they rehearse for a song that Spalding and the children will collaborate on and perform live at the benefit concert.

But, of course, SCC is not alone in looking forward to the occasion.

"I'm so excited to have



Photo Courtesy of Heads Up International

Esperanza Spalding, seen here with her upright bass, performs as SCC artist-in-residence on March 9 at Lucas Theater.

this opportunity to work and perform with the Children's Choir," Spalding said in a statement released by her manager. "It will be an absolute joy to spend

these days with them and share the fruits of our work with the public on Tuesday night. I can't wait!"

Gallery hosts cycling celebration

By Maggie Stone
Staff Reporter

Beginning March 4, Desoto Row and the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) will be hosting "Spoked: Savannah's Bike Artisan Festival." The three-day fest includes a film screening, a bike run and art shows. Another plus: there will be a plethora of prizes for broke college students to enjoy.

Desoto Row is a non-profit art gallery located on Desoto Avenue, by Abercorn and 40th Street.

Every month, this grass-

roots back alley art district showcases a wide range of local talent. The highlights of these events are Desoto's catered parties, which often include entertainment.

Many people are opting to use bicycles instead of cars, especially around downtown. Not only does bike commuting have a minimal environmental impact, but it also spares riders from staggering fuel costs.

Savannah bikers aren't strictly commuters – some enjoy riding for recreation.

"Spoked" offers art and entertainment for all walks of bike lovers.

The event gets off to a rolling start on March 4 with a screening of the film "Veer." This award-winning documentary explores issues that bike lovers struggle to overcome.

The indie flick depicts everyone from a man taking his plight to court to cops issuing tickets for cyclists disobeying traffic laws.

As a hot-pink goggle-donning woman depicted in "Veer" says, "You can't have a revolution without involving a lot of people. It doesn't work that way."

The documentary screens free-of-charge at 9 p.m. at

the River Club on 3 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

On March 5, attendees can look forward to an art reception from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Desoto Row. The juried show depicts cycling culture from the viewpoints of several featured artists, including Angela Petsis and Jessie Jones.

The festival's wheels don't stop after the film viewing and art show. March 6 offers an action-packed day from start to finish.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their bikes in order to win contests. The prizes range from a DVD of "Veer"

to a gift certificate to Star Bike. There will be a bike trade show ongoing that entire day. Anyone looking to set up a booth can either give \$25 or merchandise of equal value.

Savannah's Bike Art Festival will come to a halt with a fast-paced, bike run. All attendees are welcome to join the ride.

Look no further than "Spoked" for a fun weekend.

For more on this event, including a complete list of featured artists, visit desotorow.org.

Seven artists collaborate in exhibit, lead workshops

By F. Reese Shellman III
Staff Reporter

Each fall, Savannah's Department of Cultural Affairs selects high-caliber artists of to breathe life into the city's artistic scene. Each spring, these artists do just that.

This week, the city will unveil its newest exhibit, "Seven," at Gallery S.P.A.C.E.

The exhibit will draw together the works of seven artists, all utilizing several mediums. It will include printmaking, watercolor, drawing and mixed media.

Debra Zumstein, the program coordinator for S.P.A.C.E., said that the va-

riety of styles offered at the show means that the title is all the artists have in common.

"Each person has a very individualistic style. It is an opportunity for the viewer to see how differently all these mediums can be presented."

The choice of title is meant to illustrate that the gallery space is the only thing that these pieces share; there is no single focus or theme.

The artists, Curtis Bartone, Angela Burson, Laurie Jackson Darby, Amanda Hanlon, Margret Kuehni, Jelena Pavlovic and Jenifer Pine, all possess radically different styles.

Bartone, for example, is a printmaker and painter whose work often focuses on nature. Hanlon, who uses the same mediums, prefers to illustrate more manufactured sights, like architectural elements. Povlovic's prints do neither, picturing abstract images that zero in on humans and emotions. Darby focuses on structural pattern in her painting, intentionally designed and expertly controlled.

Zumstein said the show is about more than pleasurable aesthetics.

"It presents these styles in our gallery, but we also will offer workshops." She said the goals included educat-

ing the public utilizing the artists' differences. "It has multiple layers to it."

All of the artists except Kuehni will host hands-on workshops at the gallery. Each workshop focuses on the specialty of the instructor and targets budding artists of a variety of ages. They cost between \$10 and \$50 each and require advance registration. The offerings include relief printing, watercolor technique, portrait instruction and using collages to tell stories.

Zumstein said that all in all, the exhibit is an excellent chance to find out what Savannah has to offer. The show highlights how a local

gallery can focus on native talent without sacrificing quality; the artists are local, and their talents are prodigious.

"Seven" will open on March 5 with a reception at 6 p.m. The exhibit will be displayed until March 29. Gallery S.P.A.C.E. is located at 9 West Henry St. at the intersection with Whitaker Street. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays. Further information is available at www.savannahga.gov/arts or by calling (912) 651-6783.

'70s-era kung fu flick packs vulgar punch

By Eric Roberts
Staff Reporter

On March 10, The Psycho-tronic Film Society is showing the 1977 exploitation movie "Bare Knuckles" where the funk music fills every sound cue, and the offensive stereotypes flow like milk and honey.

In short, this movie bleeds '70s cool.

It's not exactly "quality cinema" per say. In fact, this movie is pretty awful.

But in a strange way, the film almost seems self-aware of how hilariously clichéd it is.

The storyline follows run-

of-the-mill anti-hero Zack Kane (Robert Viharo) as he bops around the slums of Los Angeles using his pure manly supremacy to take down thugs and seduce every woman he sees.

When a masked killer begins to strike at the heart of the city, the mustachioed Kane takes the initiative to stop him – apparently the LAPD didn't exist in '77.

I said earlier that this movie is one giant bucket of clichés. But I feel the need to say it again because frankly it's that prevalent, especially with the serial killer antagonist.

The leather-clad killer ex-

traordinaire Richard Devlin (Michael Heit) is quite possibly the greatest amalgamation of villainous imagery ever put on film. This guy is like the lovechild of Catwoman and Jack the Ripper, raised by Norman Bates and dressed by Leatherface. Delvin's first kill consists of him donning a leather mask and hiding in a dark L.A. alley, hissing like a cat while he stalks and stabs a pedestrian woman to death in front of an apartment full of onlookers, Kitty Genovese style.

After the first murder, Kane delves into the criminal underworld where he spends

about half of the movie chasing leads and hunting witnesses—but while the surface plot is vanilla, the horrific stereotypes around the criminal environs are nothing short of fantastic: The cops are elitist pigs, the black people are all criminals in possession of at least one firearm, the white people are rich and hoity-toity, the homosexuals are all either bikers or "queens" and the one Asian man in the entire movie is an expert in Wushu.

According to the Sentient Bean's web site, "Quentin Tarantino loves this film so much that he reportedly owns

the last remaining 35mm film print in existence and stores it in his own private vault."

All in all, I enjoyed this movie quite a bit. If you enjoy watching hilariously flawed movies, this is definitely for you.

★★★★

3.5 out of 5 stars

An Intercontinental Releasing Corporation (IRC) production

Written/Directed by Don Edmonds

No official rating, but it's definitely not for young children

The Inkwell wins big at press association

By Kristen Powell
Editor-in-Chief
chief.inkwell@gmail.com

The Inkwell collected five publication awards at the 59th Annual Southern Regional Press Institute (SRPI) held Feb. 25-26 at Savannah State University (SSU).

In the category of four-year college/university, The Inkwell received first place for outstanding newspaper as well as first place for on-line newspaper.

Arts and Entertainment Editor Dash Coleman received first place in feature writing for his piece on AASU student and musician Charles Hodge, "AASU student 'engaged with the city.'"

Web Editor Luke Farmer received first place in editorial/column writing for his weekly column, "Why it matters."

Photo Editor Hank Sharpe received second place in best photo for his shot of Uriah Hethington during a basketball game against Lander on Feb. 28, 2009.

Contest participants included the publications of AASU, SSU, Savannah College of Arts and Design, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Bethune Cookman College, Georgia Highlands College, Macon State University, Savannah Arts Academy and Effingham County High School.

The two-day conference featured workshops, panels

and critiques for student journalists and their advisers.

The theme for this year's SRPI was "Investigative Reporting: Utilizing New Media."

Speakers and consultants included Susan Catron of the Savannah Morning News, Jim Morekis of Connect Savannah and David Donald of The Center for Public Integrity, as well as many reporters, television news personalities and local professors.

Members of The Inkwell staff look forward to bringing what they learned at the conference to their readers.



Photo Courtesy of SSU

Left to right: Mike Choromanski, Layout Editor, Hank Sharpe, Photo Editor, Adam Geigerman, Sports Editor, and Kristen Powell, Editor-in-Chief, represent The Inkwell staff at the SRPI, held at SSU on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 25-26. Arts and Entertainment Editor Dash Coleman and adviser Dr. Tony Morris also attended the event.

CRIME | FROM PAGE 1

tim stated that two of her roommates were home at the time, but she was not sure about the third. She also stated that a roommate's boyfriend (who is not an AASU student) had been visiting excessively and stayed the night on several occasions.

She said that he had used the roommate's key to enter the apartment without the roommate before. The victim said that she and her roommates would sit down to discuss their concerns about this matter.

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A large graphic celebrating AASU's 75th anniversary. The letters "AASU" are in a large, stylized font on the left. To the right is a large "75" with a diagonal line through it. At the bottom, the years "1935 - 2010" are displayed.